From: Nicholas Murphy
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 4:51am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Morning,

   Don't know if my opinion weighs in any way, me being European and all. However, I do feel that the outcome of this case will directly affect me. I really don't think that the remedies as agreed will change the competive landscape one iota. The opening of the API's has been written so that only for-profit companies can access them, which directly stops them being used in any open-source solution. As Microsoft deem open-source in general and Linux in particular as "Threat number 1", this remedy is paltry at best. Giving $1billion of restored computers and software to needy schools is a way of leveraging Microsoft into a market that they weren't previously the incumbant. At the very least, they should hand over the money and let the schools decide what to do with it, what to buy and what OS to run.

N Murphy

Nicholas Morrissy-Murphy
Senior Software Engineer
WBT Systems
Block 2, Harcourt Centre,
Harcourt St,
Dublin 2,
Ireland
www.wbtsystems.com

01 4170182
nickm@wbtsystems.com

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